

CARRIER

LARRY GANSZ, KB2GV
President

ARRL SPECIAL SERVICE CLUB
AUGUST 1995

DICK SCHULZE, AA6DL
Acting Editor

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Here we are following a highly successful and enjoyable picnic, great to see families and many children having fun. A great job by all those in planning and arranging the new location, buying food and supplies, cooking, serving, games, prizes, cleanup, and everything else, thanks to all. We formed a social committee to review the picnic, manage the Christmas party, and continue to develop and improve club events (they already have action items assigned for next year's picnic). Ideas comments, please contact Joyce KD6PNO.

The countdown to PACIFICON continues, Dick Brown and crew continue to improve a great event. I know most people, like me, have one of two favorite events at a convention, we always enjoy the show and go home happy. Over the past few years I found out how much I was missing. Take a friend, XYL, harmonic, or just yourself to something different at the convention, you may be surprised what you learn (I was), and, what's fun, what's new, or find the little widget you need.

We are still recruiting for a Carrier Editor and Director. Oh yes, the nominating committee will soon be looking for candidates for 1996 club officers. We have two members to begin a vision and planning committee, looking for more, I know there are a lot of good ideas out there, speak up, where do we want to be in three years?

RRRG is continuing to improve the repeater system. Last month saw the largest number of new members (17).

Remember, you the members, make the club. When you see a new face, introduce yourself, you never know, maybe you can help, or, learn something.

See you on the air, 73, Larry KB2GV

MDARC MEETING AUG 18
RRRG MEETING SEPT 20
MDARC AUCTION SEPT 22
PACIFICON '95 OCT 20-22
CONCORD HILTON

PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

John Stuart, KM6QX

These events are a great experience for new hams, qualify as ARES/RACES training, and are a fundamental purpose of our Amateur Radio Service. No experience necessary, on-the-job training given. For more information, please contact Joe Gregory, WA6DQN, 510 283-6560 for the horse rides, or John Stuart, KM6QX, 510 283-2797 as soon as possible.

Date	Event and Location
8/26 Sat.	Metric Century Bike Event. Northgate High School, Mt. Diablo, Livermore, Lafayette.
9/16 Sat.	Horse Trail Ride Chabot Regional Park
9/16 Sat.	Danville Family Bike Tour Livery & Mercantile, Danville
9/24 Sun.	Mt. Diablo Paleontology Walk Black Hawk Quarry to Summit
9/23 Thur.	Get Dirty Trail Adventure Run Walnut Creek to Summit of Mt. Diablo

August MDARC Meeting Speaker

John Stuart, KM6QX

The speaker for our August 18 meeting we be Jim Spinello, an engineer from Caltrans' Traffic Systems in Oakland who will describe their new network of television cameras and vehicle sensors for monitoring the Bay Area highways. One interesting benefit of the remote controlled roadside mounted television cameras is to provide Caltrans with "first on the scene" information to assist the Highway Patrol in dispatching the appropriate type and number of emergency vehicles.

In the future, there may be a role for Amateur Television. If we installed a remote controlled ATV transmitter at a Caltrans control center, we could relay scenes of a major highway emergency, e.g. hazardous material spill, to the County and/or State Emergency Operations Centers. Or maybe ATV'ers could check-out the traffic situation before their morning commute?

AMATEUR RADIO EXAMS

Anthony Stanton, AC6GM

THE MOUNT DIABLO AMATEUR RADIO EXAMINERS in conjunction with the MOUNT DIABLO AMATEUR RADIO CLUB will be conducting AMATEUR RADIO license testing (including code) on the following days: AUGUST 18, OCTOBER 13, NOVEMBER 17 1995.

Tests will be given at OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH located on CAROL LANE in LAFAYETTE. The testing will begin at 6:00 PM and conclude at 8:00 PM sharp. No candidates will be accepted after 7:00 PM.

For more information regarding testing or if you require any special arrangements you may call: JIM WALLACE, 427-4022, ANTHONY STANTON, 439-0189, or SAM LIPSON, 229-5705.

FULLER ANNOUNCES FALL AUCTION

Dennis Fuller, KC6QHH, announces that the fall auction will be held on **September 15, 1995**, at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 1050 Carol Lane, Lafayette. Doors open at 6:00 PM and the auction starts at 7:00 PM continuing until 10:00 PM.

Dennis and his committee have accumulated a good supply of equipment for sale and anticipate many sellers of quality items. This is a good time to look over that radio gear that you haven't used for a while and get it into circulation and also put up a few dollars. The auction is a lot of fun and social event in its own right. Even if you don't buy or sell it's fun to watch.

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A VOTE FOR AMATEUR SATELLITES

On page 6 of the April, 1995, issue of the Carrier an article entitled "An Additional Suggestion" offered a suggestion not previously presented relating to the club's capital assets expenditures. I do not know whether club funds should be directed to support amateur satellite activities or not—an admission of my own lack of knowledge on the subject. But I do think the source of the suggestion causes me to seriously consider it and I urge the club membership to do the same.

Carson Taylor, K6TI, has not just been a Ham for 67 years; he has been an active member of the amateur community in every sense of the word. To my knowledge, he has participated in every aspect of Ham radio except television. Frequently, he was experimenting with modes of communication long before they became popular. He was constructing Ham gear long before there were kits and devising and modifying equipment years ahead of the commercial manufacturers. He was an active participant in amateur satellite activities during its infancy and has remained knowledgeable even though he is no longer able to join in; thus he knows whereof he speaks. Even today, at the age of 82, he remains active on the air in digital, voice and CW modes.

In addition to his expertise in amateur communication, Carson has served in a wide range of capacities to further the Amateur Service. Locally, he has been an Emergency Coordinator, an Official Observer Coordinator, an Editor of this newsletter, a consultant on antenna ordinances and a repeater trustee, to mention just a few. He has done a great deal to help Boy Scouts attain the rank of Eagle Scout with particular emphasis on radio and has been an Elmer to an army of newcomers to Ham radio.

So when Carson makes the suggestion of a worthwhile cause for our consideration, I think it behooves us to take it seriously. I'm sure he is aware of many areas in amateur radio where MDARC funds could be directed to great benefit. When he selects this as his suggestion, I know it comes after considerable thought.

Amateur radio is much more than 2 meter repeaters. There are many aspects of the service that can provide great enjoyment if only they are known and pursued. Frontiers are still being broken and boundaries expended by amateurs. Hams are still on the cutting edge in many areas of communication. It seems to me an active, vital and progressive club like MDARC ought to be searching for new ways to help expand the amateur service. I suspect K6TI has offered a good one and it has my vote.

George Jones, K16YK

1200MHZ. THE NOT SO NEW HAM BAND.

For more than 10 years that I am aware of, the 1200Mhz band has been a haven for hams. Moving to Northern California in 1979 and becoming involved with MDARC as soon as I got here was the right thing to do. Back in Indianapolis the 2 meter band was where most of the action was in 1979. The 220 & 440 bands had only 1 repeater on each band and those repeaters were owned by 10 of us. Those repeaters were not "closed" and I remember visitors coming into Indy and the joy of talking to someone new.

Here in Northern California things are different, in many ways. Some of the 220 and most of the 440 repeaters are "closed". This is due in part to the enormous number of hams in the Northern California area. As the ranks of ham radio operators increase we will need more room.

About 40 hams, just on the WD9BIV REPEATER, have found the "haven" of 1200Mhz. This repeater which is an open machine with the full features of autopatch, DVR (digital voice recorder) and remote bases from 6 meters to 1200Mhz going to supporting users, has been in operation since 1987.

In 1991 the repeater found a high level home on Mt. Diablo. Coverage of the 1200 band is much greater than most people think. A regular user from Orland, which is about 100 mile north of Sacramento, is full quieting most of the time with just 1 watt.

Mobile flutter is much quicker on 1200Mhz so while moving through marginal areas the conversation is able to be understood most of the time.

Several radios are available, both mobile and hand-held, with most people going to multi band radios with 1200Mhz. as one of the bands. Consideration has to be given to the quality and length of feed line and to the proper installation of the equipment, but most people are very satisfied with the performance of their stations.

Interference is much lower on the 1200Mhz band and most receivers work much better due to a much lower noise floor. 1200Mhz. repeaters in Northern California are coming on-line almost monthly with most of them actively looking for new users and folks to get involved. As is said in the Refugee Rag, "1200Mhz. The Ham Band of the 21st Century" Come-onnnnn Up!!!

"73" Tim WD9BIV

BASE STATION DONATES BOOKS TAPES FOR EDUCATION

Many thanks to Art Mayoff AB6HB of the Base Station for donating six copies of the ARRL Operating Manual to the MDARC book program and two copies of the ARRL code cassettes to the MDARC education program.

RECIPE FOR A PERFECT PICNIC

- 1 Beautiful Sunday in July
- 130 Club members ready for fun
- 350 Cans Soda Pop
- 6 Water Melons
- 3 Sheet Cakes
- 4 Cases Sweet Corn
- 30 Pounds Baked Beans
- 60 Hot Dogs
- 200 Hamburgers
- 250 Pieces of Bubblegum
- 1 Tug of War Rope
- 1 40-meter QRP Station
- 36 Eggs for Egg toss
- 24 Water Balloons
- 1 Hidden Transmitter Hunt

Meet at 10:30 at a beautiful park site, under the trees. Cook food, slice watermelons, have a great lunch. Play games, watch the kids (big and little) blow bubblegum bubbles. Have a Tug of War, toss the water balloons and get eggs all over everyone in the egg toss. Search for the hidden transmitter, work a zillion stations on low power, go home tired, happy, and looking forward to the next picnic!

MDARC TRAILER PROJECT, JULY REPORT

The MDARC Trailer Project calls for purchasing and outfitting a 6' x 12' enclosed multipurpose communications trailer for use by MDARC members during public service events, Club functions, and RACES/ARES activities.

The Trailer Design Team met once, on July 13. Several new design features were agreed to, such as installing several "Motorola" mobile speakers for users to plug their radios into. The following week, thanks to Pete Perata's (KA6SHE) son-in-law, some industrial quality vinyl floor covering was installed in the trailer. The Team decided not to schedule another meeting until the trailer liability insurance issue is resolved.

We have received encouraging news from five different organizations regarding our insurance dilemma. Since our existing insurance carrier will not provide liability insurance for the trailer, we have finally located two local brokers who think they can provide the necessary coverage. As an option, we are still considering donating the trailer to the Red Cross, the Sheriff's Amateur Radio Communication Team, or the Consolidated Fire District. Such a donation would be contingent upon allowing the Club to use the trailer for its intended purposes.

John Stuart, KM6QX

**PACIFICON '95 OCT 20-22
CONCORD HILTON**

RRRG REPEATERS UNDER NEW CONTROL

After a lot of extra effort by all parties involved, on July 15 our new Micor 440 repeater went on-line along with the new Link Comm. Inc. Repeater Controller and it was successfully interfaced to all 3 voice repeaters. It has been on Mt. Diablo for a week or so now and after the initial first day of EXCITED KURCHUNKING, it seems to have calmed down and is working as expected. This new controller gives us many new features the old ones didn't have; it also eliminates the need to change a feature in 3 separate controllers 3 separate times (Jay loves that one!). We now can connect all or any of the radios to each other for nets and/or other uses. ATV could be connected if we added another port card. Once again, there is no shortage of autodial slots.

As with any change, this comes with some problems. The big one I know about so far is that some of you have such a melodious voice that it can actually false-trigger the touch-tone decoder; sometimes the controller will recognize this as a hang-up code and say "AUTOPATCH OFF". Hopefully, by the time you read this, I will have made the resistor change to cure this situation. We will ALSO be giving it lessons on how to pronounce the word "REPEATER".

Remember that when you use a new feature of the machine with touch-tones, such as requesting "time of day," you MUST identify your transmission with your callsign; for example, "KC6SOE ACCESS". Then use the feature.

I was recently asked a question whose answer I want to share with you here. "What's the coverage pattern of our repeaters?" All three of the antennas are mounted on the Northwest leg of the tower, giving us a null toward the Southeast; the 2 meter and 220 antennas are omni-directional. While on the subject of antennas, we will be moving the 440 antenna's elements so that the radiating pattern goes from a cardioid favoring the Northwest to an omni-directional pattern, enabling us to put a better signal into Mt. Oso for the ATV link to the ATN Network. This will help the users in the Southeast on both 440 Voice and ATV systems.

Thanks go to the following tireless workers (in alphabetic order):

Barry KC6WYA, Jay KT6Y, John WA6LKP, Keith N6PMF, Paul WB6DHH, Pete KA6SHE, Steve @ Link Comm.

... and many others I know I'll hear from due to the sin of omission--my apologies go out to you now.

73, **Jim Tittle, KC6SOE, Chairman RRRG**

KNOW YOUR MEMBERS

Thomas E. (Gene) Capener, WW6H, a member of MDARC for some ten years was born in San Francisco in 1931 and moved to San Leandro when he was seven years old. He attended the old Saint Marys school in Oakland, then Brett Hart and Graduated from Hayward High School in 1949. After Attending University of California Berkeley for a couple of years he served in Korea. On returning he started work for Matson Navigation and is still working there forty-three years later as night Supercargo [that's the person in charge of cargo but nowadays stays in port]. He has lived in the same home in Orinda since 1963. Not much of a drifter.

Gene was first licensed in 1954 but started over again in the mid 1980s, becoming an Extra Class in 1986. Two of his family members are Hams, wife Marilyn, N6XMK, and son John, N6RGW, leaving daughter Nancy the only unlicensed member who is under some pressure. Gene is a very knowledgeable computer expert and runs the Concord Sunnyvale VE exams. He is so modest that we could only get information for an article by promising not to publish it.

DICK, AA6DL

**FOR WOMEN ONLY.....watch
this space for more information
next month, reserve 9-10:30 Oct 7th !!**

**PACIFICON '95 TO INCLUDE FRIDAY
ANTENNA SESSION**

Experts for a wide ranging antenna session for PACIFICON '95 have committed their time to speak on Friday the 20th of October.

Early sign-up for this event recommended to assure your seat. This is sure to be a sellout! Don't miss out on this once in a year opportunity.

Call Ray Gaschk, KD6BLS (510) 933-3242 for your reservation. There will be a charge to all attendees for the handout to pay for printing.

8:00 AM Rob Hill, Fremont

ANTENNA BASICS

This will give you knowledge of antenna basics, types, characteristics, impedance's. References, dBi, dBd. Why do I need one? Why can't I just use the antenna that came with my HT? Especially important for new Hams and a brush-up on theory for the rest of us. Be sure to get there early!

9:15 Ed Farmer, AA6ZM, Sacramento

**NEAR VERTICAL INCIDENCE SKYWAVE (NVIS)
COMMUNICATION TECHNIQUES**

High angle radiation in the HF bands can provide continuous coverage over areas of several hundred miles radius. This method can be very useful for emergency communications. Frequency choice and antenna selection are the keys. See article in Jan '95 QST for more info. This talk attracted a standing room only crowd at SeaPac earlier this year. Don't miss it!

10:30 Break

10:45 Rob Hill, Fremont

IMPEDANCE MATCHING SIMPLIFIED

How important is it? How does it affect communication? How does it affect your rig? How do you do it? Important knowledge that we can all use.

12:00 Lunch

1:00 G. Roger Gathers, N6GRF, Pleasanton

**LOG PERIODIC SQUARE BOOM ANTENNA
FOR 2 METERS**

Design Analysis of a Log Periodic antenna for 2M

When were they invented and why. What does log periodic mean?

Find out about these antennas and why they are popular. Learn how to design a LPDA with a specific example for 2M, complete with coax balun. Computer design code is included.

2:30 Break

**2:45 Gene Swiech and Bill Smith of Swiech
Communication Systems, Poway, CA**

Characteristics of Yagi-Uda, long boom, high gain antennas for use on VHF/UHF

4:00 Session Ends

RRRG General Membership Meeting Minutes

19 July 1995

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 by Chairman Jim, KC6SOE. Secretary Richard, WA5HQJ, reported on the asset tag procedure and advised that the equipment moved to the mountain was so tagged. Treasurer Norma, N6EJZ, advised that we had a bank balance of \$8,040.71. MDARC President Larry, KB2GV, reported on the program for the next club meeting and that the Board of Directors' meeting would be on the following Monday. He also reported that we had purchased 312 cans of soda for the picnic on Sunday and that everyone should sign up and come to have a good time and not leave us with a lot of soda pop. Club Station Trustee Jay, KT6Y, read a letter received from member Tom Schweickert, AC6KF, thanking the users of the repeaters for making them non-threatening to his family and other family users.

Chairman Jim, KC6SOE, advised that readjustments would be made over the weekend to our repeaters to improve the audio quality. He also said that some speech patterns of individuals were recognized by the controller as touch tones. He suggested that with a little practice, we could all learn to access the system with our voices and cease using touch tone pads. Hi.

Keith, N6PMF, reported that we would soon have links operating on 2.4 Ghz thanks to some microwave equipment that was donated to us. He also asked the group's desires concerning the TCP/IP node planned for Rocky Ridge. The issue concerned the cavities and purchase of a suitable radio for 9600 baud as the available radio cannot practically be modified. The membership voted to purchase a radio and to proceed with the 9600 baud system.

PACIFICON '95 Chairman Dick, KT6X, reminded the members that the next planning meeting would be held at Baker's Square on Saturday at 8:00 am. All are welcome. Secretary Richard, WA5HQJ, reported that the doppler systems were lagging but he would try to get them moving along. Keith, N6PMF, said that he had not proceeded with the color bar generator as he had not found time to see another unit in operation.

Seventeen new members were admitted into membership. The meeting adjourned at about 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard M. Shappee, WA5HQJ, Secretary, RRRG

Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club

General Membership Meeting 21 July 1995

President Larry, KB2GV, called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm. He introduced new members and license upgrades to the 107 club members in attendance and then asked past presidents of MDARC to stand and be recognized. Dick, AA6DL and Dick, KT6X, were applauded for their past performance in this position.

The June meeting minutes were approved as published in the CARRIER. Veep John, KM6QX, spoke briefly of coming public service events, of the auction in September and PACIFICON'95 in October. Club EC Sam, KO6JR, advised the members of the coming August 2 EC's meeting at Baker's Square and invited those who wanted to be involved in RACES to attend. He also reported that 22 people had presented themselves for license exams and that there were 11 VE's who had helped with the task. Education Chairman Jim, WB6LQG, reported on future radio classes.

Membership Chairman Dick, AA6DL, reported that our membership was 607. Of these, 268 were members of the Rocky Ridge Repeater Group. Dick also advised that CARRIER Editor Greydon, KC6SLE, had started a graduate program and no longer could serve as Editor. Dick will continue as acting Editor for a short time until an Editor is identified.

Dick, KT6X, PACIFICON'95 Chairman, reported on its status. Everything is on schedule and exhibitor space is sold out. He reminded the members to order their banquet tickets early as they are going fast and there are not as many available this year as in the past. RRRG Chairman Jim, KC6SOE, reported on the new UHF repeater on the hill and that the repeaters are now all linked through the new controller. He said that the technical committee was aware of a few problems and that they would be corrected. He also said that the 2-meter repeater output was low and that this would be addressed.

Ray Gaschk, KD6BLS, told of the antenna sessions being planned for the Friday of PACIFICON'95 and asked that interested persons sign up. Picnic Chairman George, WB6OFH, advised that 176 had signed up for the Picnic. Glen, KC6TNF, demonstrated a simple t-hunting technique that could be used at the picnic or else where. Veep John, KM6QX, reported on the Public Service Trailer. It has had linoleum installed through the kindness of the son of Pete, KA6SHE. John reviewed the options we have concerning the insurance issues and advised that the problem was still being worked.

Shirt and Hat Chairman Lyle, KB6DOW, gave a report and made a request for the authorization to purchase more shirts. A lively discussion followed during which the logo on the shirts and hats was accepted by the club, the decision was made to let the Chairman decide on colors and sizes to be ordered, and the results of the financial analysis made by Secretary Richard, WA5HQJ, were revealed. More shirts were authorized (\$600) and the discrepancy of \$12.00 in receipts was corrected.

President Larry, KB2GV, commented on the Planning Committee formed during the last Director's meeting and asked that those who had the time and desire to let their interest be known. Secretary Richard, WA5HQJ, reported that the property tag procedure was in place and that the equipment recently put on the mountain was identified. He also advised that he had handouts of the seismometer design that was the subject of last month's meeting. The program to buy books for schools will be activated after the start of the school year.

The program for the evening concerned the Community Warning System Project and was presented by Steve Overacker, WA6HAM. The membership enjoyed his talk.

The customary door prizes were won at the end of the meeting which adjourned at about 10:00 pm. Respectfully submitted,

Richard M. Shappee WA5HQJ Secretary, MDARC

CLUB MEMBERS AND FAMILIES ENJOY PICNIC

Baldwin Park, in Concord, was the scene for the 1995 MDARC annual picnic. A full day of fun and food was provided for about 130 people who attended. Preparations for the picnic were under the chairmanship of George, WB6OFH. The fearsome five sharing the cooking and serving were Paul, KC6TZU, Dennis, KC6QHH, Pete,

KA6SHE, Don, N6SIA, and Joyce, KD6PNO. Others on the committee who helped to make it all a success either at the picnic or by buying things or providing items were Richard, WA5HQJ, Lyle, KB6DOW, Bernie, KB6MTI, and Jane, N6NVA. Lurking in the background giving good advice was Dick, AA6DL.

The park site was one of the best ever visited by the club. All of the tables were under large trees so that they were well shaded from the sun and the grass throughout the park was fresh and green. The traditional games were provided including several contests with the tug of war rope. The transmitter hunt was relatively easy because the park location is not hilly. The hunters, nine in all, did very well. JC Smith, KC6EIJ, set up a QRP station and impressed nearly everyone with how well it worked and with his CW ability.

If you missed the picnic, be sure to attend next year. You will be glad that you did. WA5HQJ

FREE INTERNET ACCESS FOR ALL?

For those of you who have not had an opportunity to try Internet, here's your chance!

Find out how to work the World Wide Web, download tons of Amateur Radio software, look for a long lost Ham buddy if you remember his call or City of residence, trace your ancestors, even if they were in Europe, get in on radio bargains listed on the sale pages of the news pages. Access information from your old alma mater library or get in on interesting discussions concerning all sorts of topics, including Ham Radio. Find out what your representatives in the State Capital and Washington DC are up to, look at the CIA BBS.

The CA state library system has sponsored the installation of 180 Internet terminals throughout the state. There are eight terminals in CCCounty and all of them are available to residents at no charge, as well as docent instructors to help you get started. The following library locations have terminals: Antioch, Concord, El Cerrito, Orinda, Pinole, Pleasant Hill, San Ramon, Walnut Creek.

Contact the nearest Internet terminal containing branch and sign up for an hours time with a docent. Then sign up for another hour on your own, and be prepared to be thrilled! If this article peaks your interest, don't just sit there, call your library and get going!

Those not in CCCounty, don't fear, adjacent counties have terminals too. PS, if you want to download programs when receiving instruction, bring a few IBM compatible formatted 3 1/2 inch 1.44 Mbyte floppies with you. Have fun!

Ray Gaschk, KD6BLS

Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club

Board of Director's Meeting 24 July 1995

The meeting came to order at 7:30 PM at Emil Villa's Restaurant in Concord under the gavel of President Larry, KB2GV. Social Chairman George, WB6OFH, gave a brief report on the picnic. He said that comments he had received included the lack of prizes for the youngsters and inability of some to hear what was going on, with the recommendation that we consider having a PA next time. Other comments included the desire to have porta-potties near by as well as arranging for a rotating shift of adults to be near the public restrooms in case of trouble. The suggestion was made that we might want to do the feeding later, have the door prize drawings earlier, and to arrange for a clean-up committee as well as other committees. Because of the difficulty in keeping track of the supplies, the need for a storekeeper was brought up. A suggestion was made that we might want to have the event catered in the future. Paul, KC6TZU, provided a handout of thoughts and suggestions that should be considered by the committee next time. A Social Committee was formed, comprised of Pete, KA6SHE, Don, N6SIA, Paul, KC6TZU, Dick, AA6DL, Joyce, KD6PNO, and George, WB6OFH. The committee plans to have its first meeting at 7:30 pm on Monday, 31 July.

Minutes of the last meeting were approved as written with the notation that the call of Tom Schweickert was improperly reported. Club member Dick, KT6X, reported on his discussions with a local BBS operator who might be considered as a third party source of service to the club in lieu of our own BBS. This supplier would provide up to 30 minutes per day of connect time to any MDARC member for no cost. He would provide up to 60 minutes per day as well as E-Mail and Internet connect services for \$30.00 per year per person desiring such service. He offers a wide range of services as well as direct phone connect throughout most of the county. He will demonstrate what he has to offer at the next board meeting to be held at the home of Secretary Richard, WA5HQJ, on August 21, at 7:30 pm.

Club member Ignacio Huerta, AC6NY, spoke to the directors about the wisdom of considering Internet service rather than a BBS for the club. Part of his argument was that kids in schools are learning on the Internet, not on BBS's. His contention was that in two or three years BBS's will be a thing of the past. He offered to make a demonstration at a future meeting, probably to be held at the home of Dick, AA6DL. He also spoke of wanting to see how we could help the schools with radio clubs. He was referred to EC Sam, KO6JR.

Dick, KT6X, called attention to the planning going on at PACIFICON'95 concerning ATV. In

the past, the ATV console has been inside the hotel. The plan this year is to have it in the Public Service Trailer. He said that if there was to be a change in this plan (because of insurance considerations), he needed to know as soon as possible.

Secretary Richard, WA5HQJ, made the treasurer's report for new treasurer Rod, KE6QYK, as he had the information, not yet turned over to Rod. Membership Chairman Dick, AA6DL, said that we had 618 members including 175 family members. The matter of finding a new CARRIER editor was brought up. Several people have expressed interest in the position. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard M. Shappee, WA5HQJ
Secretary, MDARC

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Club 'repeat' users seem to be in a compound learning curve since the new controller went "on the hill" in mid-July.

What had been promised as a "perfect installation" has left the voice portion of the ID with a strange cut-off announcing the machines as "W6CX Repeat" as opposed to "Repeat-ER." The missing part of the descriptive adjective has prompted lots of foolishness among both new and old hams.

A "new" gadget for the push-button minded, and those forgetful to wear wrist-watches, the time in either male or female voice was disconnected on July 28 because so many users were asking the time that the Call Sign Trustee, KT6Y, finally had enough and shut the gadgetry off.

All three of the club's repeaters had distinctive melodious tones assigned to them. The sounds ranged from a be-bop, to what might be best described as a plop in a toilet bowl, to three high pitched dits of a di-dah builder gone nuts.

The change in sounds has apparently set the loonies in the user group to the belief that the moon is full every day of the week for a full year. The result is constant "kerchunking" of the repeater.

Then there is the "false" hang-up that prompts the repeater to voice that the autopatch is "off" when it was never on, insofar as anyone can determine. This phenomenon is brought about by the distinctive inflection and frequency of some member's voices. It has even prompted Jim Tittle, KC6SOE, who is president of the Rocky Ridge Repeater Group to joke that a member could completely control the autopatch, and maybe the repeater, simply with voice commands.

Running a repeater is serious business, and for a second nobody should think that fun is being poked at those who have done the club a labor of love by investing hour upon hour to "tweak" the controller and the machines to peak performance.

This is simply a record of observations of a new device.

But it can't be left there. Why can't we just shut off the squelch tail and deprive the button pushers of their fun? It is done on other repeaters in the area and it is an effective way of telling scofflaws, "Please go elsewhere."

If you are hitting a repeater, you'll know it because the bars or needles on a radio will light up and stay up for a second or two. And the control operators who supposedly want to know what machines of our three are being used, can look at their bars too.

What do you think? Or is another loonie loose again?

Paul W. Girard, KC6TZU

WHAT EVER HAPPENED TO THE REPEATER USER RULES?

New users to the W6CX Repeater, and even some old users, need to be reminded from time to time about the Rocky Ridge Repeater Group's policy on confronting those who jam, and those who need advice on curing improper operating practices.

If memory serves, it is RRRG policy that jammers are **never** confronted on the air. They are **ignored** because ignoring them gives the jammer no pleasure that he/she is wrecking ham fun for someone.

Calling a jammer an "idiot" can come back to haunt the taunter. Sometimes jammers are exceptionally bright people with a twisted sense of social acceptance and manner.

To openly encourage a "jammer hunting expedition" or a "coax party" is dangerous and very possibly illegal. Just suppose the "expedition" confronts the wrong person, or worse yet, finds a jammer who might have a 12 gauge shotgun behind the door.

If any of the W6CX machines have jammers, or if you know who a jammer is, get the information promptly to officials of the Rocky Ridge Repeater Group as listed in *the Carrier*, or to a control operator, also listed in *the Carrier*.

In the past several weeks there have been conversations on the repeaters among both knowledgeable users and those who should have knowledge that violate all the established rules.

Those you have elected to run both MDARC and the RRRG know how to deal with the problems of repeater mis-use. If you are not a member of an official group, such as the Official Observers, then please do yourself and the club a favor by reporting jammers and letting officials deal with the issue.

On improper operating issues, the offending party can be called on the telephone and told where the operating error occurred. That's the polite way. That's the MDARC way.

Paul W. Girard, KC6TZU

WHAT TO DO ???

Sometimes we hear radio operators on our repeaters who seem to delight in spoiling things for the rest of us. Through their crude, obscene and profane language they display the worst that ham radio has to offer. What should you do when you hear this unwanted language on your radio? There are a couple of things you can do, but there are far more things that you should NOT do. First of all, don't answer him, or respond in any way. Don't acknowledge that he is there. Don't mention to your buddy that "We are tracking him down" even if you are, and you probably are not. Don't talk about him. What you should do is ignore him, talk over him if you can, and in the worst case, sign off and be silent. If he doesn't have an audience, he will go away. The nature of such a person is that he must have an audience or must get his way. The reason that the repeater is not instantly turned off is that we don't want to acknowledge the abuser of our ham privileges that we know he is there. Only when others engage in dialogue and there appears that there is no other alternative does a SYSOP take this action. So, don't let someone who abusing our systems be the one who causes them to be shut off. Don't give him this control. Reach over and make your radio go "click" (off) and come back another time to talk.

T. O. M.

AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE ASSISTS CITY OF MARTINEZ

The annual City of Martinez Independence Day festivities draw well over 20,000 people into the Martinez Marina for a day filled with entertainment, exhibits, a carnival, sport activities and an international variety of food booths. The activities begin at dawn and last until after the 9:00 PM huge gala fireworks display.

For the past five years, members of the Amateur Radio Emergency Service from the City of Martinez and nearby Contra Costa County cities, have assisted in promoting the safety of this event. Amateur operators on foot in the sprawling marina area serve as extra eyes and ears for public safety officials, assisting in searches for missing children, reporting medical aid incidents, and alerting law enforcement personnel to crimes which occasionally occur during this event.

The City of Martinez' 1995 Independence Day Festivities were quite successful due in no small measure to the assistance of some 23 A.R.E.S. personnel who assisted throughout the day and evening. Coordinated by emergency coordinators Bert Dawson, KB7BGM, and Sam Lipson, KO6JR, the following (including many brand new Amateurs!) provided very valuable and much appreciated assistance:

KE6TOT, N6UTX, KA6YNO, N6LJY, KE6CEU, W6NKF, N6POU, N6BHX, N6LGE, KE6LNV, KE6OEX, KE6OQZ, K7SDF, AA6DO, KE6EJG, KO6WE, WA6TNI, KE6BFO, KA6WAG, KE6OEF, KE6BPB.

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MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY UPDATE

by Dick Schulze, AA6DL

MDARC is pleased to welcome the following new members:

ANTHONY, Arlene R., SWL
1250 Castle Rock Rd, Walnut Creek, CA 94598
(510)-932-2952(h)

BARRETT, Linda, SWL
160 Edgewater Pl., Pittsburg, CA 94565
(510)-432-1311(h)

BUTLER, Yuriko, SWL
3700 Barrington Dr., Concord, CA 94518
(510)-827-0855(h)

CATELLA, Mike R., KE6UXS, Technician
2405 Kensington Court, Antioch, CA 94509
(510)-706-7983(h), (510)-427-3900 x4384(w),
(510)-706-0156(fx)

CHELEW, Paul, SWL
3157 Diablo View Rd., Lafayette, CA 94549

COOK, Donna, KE6PPM, Technician
1730 Helix Ct., Concord, CA 94518
(510)-682-9810(h), (510)-842-3600(w)

COOK, Lewis(Lew), KE6PTM, Technician
1730 Helix Ct., Concord, CA 94518
(510)-682-9810(h) (510)-242-7040(w) (510)-242-7022(fx)

ENGEL, Hal, KE6VOX, Technician
20 Apple Tree Lane, Alamo, CA 94507
(510)-743-1142(h), (510)-842-1170(b)

ESTEP, Greg R., KE6VTA, Technician
231 Market Plaza #238, San Ramon, CA 94583
(510)-551-8369(h), (510)-842-1097(w) (510)-842-5986(fx)

FREITAS, Leonard J., KE6TLG, Technician
21772 Westfield Ave., Hayward, CA 94541
(510)-881-4754(h)

GILCHRIST, Mark, KO6QS, Advanced
2840 Morgan Dr., San Ramon, CA 94583
(510)-833-8822(h), (510)-833-8823

GIRARD, Nancy, SWL
3775 Walnut Ave., Concord, CA 94519-1947
(510)-689-2346(h)

GREEN, Marcus K., KE6TOQ, Technician
721 Oakbrook Dr., Suisun, CA 94585
(707)-864-8239(h), (510)-228-1220(w)

GROOM, A. French, SWL
15 Amelia Way, Pittsburg, CA 94565
(510)-439-7843(h), (510)-228-5242(w)

JONES, Susan E., KE7UIO, Technician
1313 Spring Meadow Lane, Concord, CA 94521
(510)-685-5179(h)

JONTE, Robert, KE6OQZ, Technician
40 Foster Street, Martinez, CA 94553
(510)-228-6079(h), (510)-227-8500(w)
(510)228-2219(fx)

KARP, Doug, KE6SSO, Technician
743 San Simeon Dr., Concord, CA 94518
(510)-680-7543(h & w)

KAMARIOTIS, James J.
1951 Apple Drive, Concord, CA 94518-3109
(510)-687-2621(h), (510)-466-9365(b)

LAMM, Willis, N6VZT, Technician
2883 Delta Road, Brentwood, CA 94513
(510)-625-0781(h), (510)-254-1110(w)
(510)-254-8726(fx)

LOWERY, Mike, KE6NMP, Technician
1020 Berrellesa St., Apt A., Martinez, CA 94553

MORAIN, Patricia (Pat), KE6UXZ, Technician
3683 Willow Pass Rd., # 12, Concord, CA 94519

MC DONALD, John, AC6LV, Extra
330 Gilger Street, Martinez, CA 94553
(510)-228-8290(h), (510)-525-2202(w)

MC KENZIE, Shirley, KE6SQV, Technician
3157 Diablo View Rd., Lafayette, CA 94549
(510)-932-8648(h)

MAGUIRE, Ron, KE6SSR, Technician
3719 Gainsborough Dr., Concord, CA 94518
(510)-825-6688(h), (510)-271-9793(w)

ORTIZ, Enrique(Rick), KE6LHE, Technician
2121 Colfax Way, Antioch, CA 94509

RENTEN, Steve, KE6SAL, Technician
6038 Skyline Blvd., Oakland, CA 94611
(510)-654-7497(h)

COAR-TITTLE, Andrea, SWL,
178 Thomas Way, Pittsburg, CA 94565
(510)-432-3220(h), (510)-686-6860(w)

ULFELDT, Eva R., SWL
16 Luree Court, Danville, CA 94526
(510)-820-2063(h)

WILSON, Charles I., W6CCQ, General
566 St. George Road, Danville, 94526
(510)-891-8910(h)

Congratulations to the following on their upgrade and/or new call:
Dennis Mockel, KE6VOV, Technician

Please note the following changes:

New mailing address and telephone for **Larry Gansz** are P.O.Box 5144,
Alameda, CA 94501-8444, (510)-376-4006

The correct call for **Jeanne Lee** is KE6UXX.

New address and telephone for **Marc and Lisa McGlothlin** are 12500 Del
Valle Rd., Livermore, CA 94550-9198, (510)-443-5064

The call for **Tom Schweickert** is AC6KF

The call for **Chris Schweikert** is AC6KE

KNOW YOUR MEMBERS

CHARLES P. (CHUCK) PATTERSON, K6RK, one of our charter members, was born in Wichita, Kansas, 1916, and moved to Berkeley in 1922. He attended Berkeley schools and graduated from U. C. Berkeley with a degree in Electrical Engineering in 1938 followed by an MBA from Stanford in 1940. He started working for U. S. Steel Company, Pittsburg plant, in 1940 as an Industrial Engineer, was then called to active duty in the Signal Corps where he reached the rank of Lt. Col. and returned to U. S. Steel in 1946 where he became Superintendent of the Tin Mill retiring in 1978.

Chuck was licensed in 1930 as W6CFN, later as W6ATR and finally in 1970 as K6RK as an extra class. He is an avid DXer both on CW and Phone. He has worked over 320 countries, received the five band DXCC award in 1978, awarded Honor Roll Status in DXCC and has served as president of Northern California DX Club. His latest fastination is 160 meters where he has worked 113 countries. Chuck has lived in Lafayette since 1940 but has two other homes, one in Railroad Flat, and another in Pinecrest. He commutes regularly to Railroad Flat, Calavaras County, where he has a 60' foot tower to pursue 160 meter and other DX contacts. The noise level is better there.

Chuck is still active in MDARC and often teaches one of our Ham classes.
Dick, AA6DL

BEST YET MDARC PICNIC DRAWS THRONG TO BALDWIN PARK

CONCORD—The Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club's annual picnic at Baldwin Park was termed "the best yet" by a horde of satisfied picnic goers.

Moved from Lafayette Reservoir for the first time in nearly a dozen years, Baldwin Park offered the 150 or so attendees a wonderful day in the sun, good food and lots of fun.

The tree shaded picnic grove provided the best place yet for hamburger chefs **Pete Perata** (KA6SHE), **Dennis Fuller** (KC6QHH), **Joyce Shappee** (KD6PNO), **Don Anthony** (N6SIA) and **Paul Girard** (KC6TZU) to cook over hot stoves. A half dozen volunteers joined in shucking sweet white corn that had been picked at Mangini's Farm in Pleasant Hill just for the event.

The menu, all provided by MDARC, was hamburgers, hot dogs, sweet corn on the cob rolled in butter, potato chips, beans, soft drinks, cake and watermelon.

Garnish's included succulent picked-that-day beefsteak tomatoes, Vidalia white and and Stockton sweet red onions, mustard, sweet relish, ketchup, mayonnaise, lettuce, cheese and salt and pepper.

So good was the fare, that well before the dinner bell sounded chow hounds lined up two abreast half way around the picnic grove.

More than one well-recognized club member made their way back into line for seconds even before sitting down for the first course.

"That's the way picnics are supposed to be," said one old-timer with hamburger mushing out the side of his mouth as a piece of watermelon went in. "This is just great," said the white straw hatted ham.

George Roush (WB6OFH) orchestrated the whole mess, which included a tug-of-war, egg and balloon tosses, bubble gum bubble blowing contests, children's games of various sorts and bean counting.

A ham version of a rabbit hunt had dozens of other park attendees twisting their heads in awe as a dozen or so hunters holding weird shaped antenna, radios and even compasses traipsed through the park.

The winner of the rabbit hunt, incidentally, was using a home built Ramsey T-hunting kit. "Once he had the direction he just walked right up to it," said **Jay Caldis** (KT6Y) an observer.

"From about 500 yards I watched and he didn't vary 15 feet off course," said the aged observer. Nobody knows if the time as a picnic record, but it is assumed to be a new course standard.

Events to occupy every age group from 5 to 105 were happening so fast it was hard for

the untrained observer to keep up and even the reporter assigned to "cover" the event couldn't write down the names of winners fast enough to satisfy the acting editor. The reporter gave up trying to amass names for "the big club picnic story."

Attendance at the picnic should have been 179, said Roush, but a few last minute cancellations and some no-shows dropped actual attendance to the 150 mark, still a club record for an outdoor picnic.

Door prizes, or "bribes" as they have come to be called, were won by a dozen attendees, including two associate members who had signed membership papers just minutes before their lucky tickets were plucked from the "bribe barrel."

The new members were signed up in a

drive spearheaded by the club's "bulldog" membership chairman, **Dick Schulze** (AA6DL). He was successful in signing one regular member and about a half dozen "associates" including some wives who have been habitual hold-outs.

The group picnic grove at Baldwin offers a tree shaded gathering area and picnic table seating for about 200.

At the Board of Directors meeting on the following Monday the size and wonder of the event prompted the Board to form a social event steering committee that could form a team to equalize the burden of putting on this type of event as the club gains in size. (See sidebar on Events).

Event winners were promptly handed tickets good for an extra regular meeting raffle ticket worth 20 cents. "Think you can afford it?" asked one lucky winner. **Paul W. Girard**, KC6TZU

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When frequency is clear, quickly and clearly transmit in the following sequence::

LOCATION, OBSERVATION, NAME and CALL SIGN.

If a Hospital or ARES/RACES net control is established, relinquish use of repeater and break only with urgent traffic using your CALL SIGN and LOCATION or CITY

The Mount Diablo Amateur
Radio Club

P.O. Box 23222
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Meetings:

Third Friday Each Month
8:00 PM / 2000 hours
Our Savior's Lutheran Church
1035 Carol Lane, Lafayette, CA

1994 Club Officers

President:

Larry Gansz, KB2GV
(510)356-2411

Vice President:

John Stuart, KM6QX
(510)283-2797

Secretary:

Richard Shappee, WA5HQJ
(510)682-1644

Treasurer:

Rodney Raines, KE6QYK
(510)689-1634

Membership Chairman:

Dick Schulze, AA6DL
(510)935-5000

Emergency Coordinator:

Sam Lipson, KO6JR
(510)229-5705

Directors:

Tom Seabury, KC6SYG
(510)837-4433
Ray Gaschk, KD6BLS
(510)933-3242

MDARC-PACIFICON HOT LINE

(510)932-6125

Contra Costa County
ARES/RACES Nets

Thursdays, 1900 Hours

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Jim Brunk, N6BHX
(510)372-8248

East County - 146.535/s

Jim Tittle, KC6SOE
(510)432-3220

South County - 146.355/+(100 pl)

Greg Nelson, WB6MBD
(510)933-5381

West County - 145.110/-

Rachel Lewellen, KB6LHR
(510)233-5034

QSY to 147.735/- at 1920 Hours

Meeting of all County

ARES/RACES Nets

The Rocky Ridge Repeater
Group

P.O. Box 23222
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Next Meeting:

Third Wednesday Of Odd Months
07:30 PM / 1930 hours
Stonebrook Convalescent Center
Concord Blvd., Concord, CA

Chairman:

Jim Tittle, KC6SOE
(510)432-3220

Technical Chairman:

John Hendrickson, WA6LKP
unlisted

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Net Control: Jay Caldis, KT6Y

ATV Net - Thursdays

2000 Hours, Net Control:

Mike Burke, KB6RMT,

Alt.: Don Smith, W6NKF,

Youth Net - Thursdays

1900 Hours, 147.060/+(100pl), Net Control rotates

Contra Costa County
Emergency Services HF Net

First Thursday following

first Wednesday,

2000 Hours, 3.895 MHz

Net Control:

Sam Lipson, KO6JR

Carrier

Acting Editor: Dick Schulze, AA6DL

1599 La Casa Court, Walnut Creek, CA 94598

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Editor emeritus: Greydon H. Hicks, KC6SLE

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The Carrier is a monthly publication of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club (MDARC). This publication is open to all members of MDARC and it is the policy of this Editor to publish all articles submitted by the membership as long as such articles are not obscene, pertain to Amateur Radio, are of interest to the members of MDARC and space is available. Articles are due by the first of each month and are accepted on a first come, first in basis. Articles should be submitted by packet, AA6DL @ KB6AML.#NOCAL.USA.NA or packet mailbox, AA6DL-1, 145.05, or by modem to the Doug Smith's No Name Yet bulletin board, File area #23, at (510) 827-5714 or delivered to the Editor in ASCII format on either 5.25" or 3.5" computer disk. The standard font is Arial 9 point. The Editor's address can be found in the Carrier or MDARC Membership Directory. Articles published in the Carrier may be reproduced provided that such reproduction credits both MDARC and the author of the article. Copyrighted articles will not be accepted for publication in the Carrier.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 18	8:00 PM	MDARC General Membership Meeting	Our Saviour's Lutheran Church 1050 Carol Lane, Lafayette
August 19	8:00 AM	PACIFICON committee meeting	Bakers Square Restaurant 1680 Willow Pass Road, Concord
August 21	7:30 PM	MDARC Board Meeting	2955 Corte Miguel, Concord
August 26	9:00 AM- Noon	Fairfield HAM Exams Dick, AB6EY, 916-791-0268	Fairfield Senior Center 1200 Civic Drive, Fairfield Last Saturday of each month
September 3	7:00 AM- Noon	Livermore Swapmeet	Las Positas College, Livermore 1st Sunday each month all year
September 6	7:30 PM	RACES monthly meeting	Bakers Square Restaurant 1st Wednesday every month
October 1	1:00 PM	Sunnyvale VEC Exams Gene Capener, WW6H, 510-254-5090	Consolidated Fire Training Center 2945 Treat Blvd., Concord 1st Sunday even months
Sept 20	7:30 PM	RRRG General Membership Meeting	Stonebrook Convalescent Center 4367 Concord Blvd., Concord

The Carrier
a newsletter of the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club
P.O. Box 23222
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523



FIRST CLASS MAIL

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